

News From Southern Shores Town Hall

Friday, January 20, 2006

Southern Shores Volunteer Fire Department Awards Banquet

The Southern Shores Volunteer Fire Department held its annual awards banquet at the Duck Woods Country Club January 13, 2006, recognizing the accomplishments and service of the members of the Fire Department to the Southern Shores community. The event was attended by Southern Shores fire department firefighters, rehabilitation team members, Southern Shores Mayor, Town Manager and Council Members, and the Duck Fire Chief. Special recognition was given to three long-term dedicated members of the Department who have been with the Fire Department since its early years. Dave Bakken, Peter McFarlane, and Bill Albrecht have dedicated countless hours to build one of the finest volunteer fire departments on the Outer Banks and have served as an inspiration for dozens of others to do the same. Bob Ruff was recognized as the 2005 Firefighter of the Year. He has achieved his Firefighter I certification, is a Driver/Operator, currently serves on the SSVFD board of directors and has the rank of Sergeant for the East Station. The Rookie of the Year award had to be expanded to recognize two outstanding new members of the Fire Department. Their interest in serving the Department and the community was evidenced by their dedication to learning new skills and doing whatever it takes to make the department excel. Dave Evans and Ken Swanki were recognized as Rookies of the Year. A new recognition award was given this year, selected by the general department membership. The Officer of the Year was given to George Kowalski. He has been a member since 2002, a past recipient of Rookie of the Year. George has achieved Firefighter I and Firefighter II certification, serves as a Driver/Operator, member of Rescue 12, and currently is the Chairman of the Board of Directors. George holds the rank of Captain and Training Officer. The coveted Keenan Award, which recognizes a member who has gone above and beyond any level of expectation, was given to Dick Furioni. Dick has been a member for five years; serving as a lieutenant, captain, member of Rescue 12, Chairman of the Board of Directors, and currently as Assistant Chief. Another new award, the Chief's Award, was given to Elmer Seuffert. Elmer had been a firefighter for many years, and most recently serves with the rehab team.

New members are always needed in the Department. Anyone who is interested in joining the Fire Department, or wanting more information how they can serve in a number of capacities, can call 252-261-2272, contact any member or stop by the fire department. Meetings are held every Wednesday night at the South Station. Interested persons can also email ["SSVFD"](#) or ["Chief Harvey"](#).

No-Excuse Early Voting has Started

There will be no-excuse early voting on the referendum to repeal the one-cent increase in the sales/use tax, which took effect on Jan. 1, 2006 at the Dare County Board of Elections in Manteo and at the Baum Center Kill Devil Hill. Voting at the Baum Center is through February 3, 2006 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information call Dare County Board of Elections 475-5630. The actual date of the special voting is on Feb. 7, 2006.

The sales/use tax increase will be used to pay for beach nourishment in Dare County. If you favor keeping the current sales tax, vote “against”. If you oppose the current sales tax, vote “for”. Go to ["ballot"](#) to see a sample of the ballot. Most important: Please remember to vote.

Chicahauk Beach Access Parking Area Landscaping:

Public Works has been very busy improving landscaping of the new Chicahauk Beach Access Parking Area. The bathroom enclosure has been relocated so that the door is facing south rather than west and Public Works staff and the inmate crew have installed irrigation lines to assist with the type of vegetation requested by the CPOA Board. Such vegetation includes live oaks near the house on the southwest corner, bayberry or other low shrubs on the southern side, and love grass and similar plantings along the sidewalk and in the drainage swale. A foot wash and shower has been installed near the bathroom. The work should be completed within the next month.

Chipping:

The Chipper will be in Sector #4 the week of January 23, and your brush should be placed out by Monday morning. Sector #1 can start putting their brush out for chipping. **For more information and schedule on the program go to [Chips](#). To see a sector map go to [Map](#). Chips are available, please contact [Karen](#) with your address and place a sign off the right-of-way where to put the chips.**

Dates To Remember:

- Town Council Meeting, Tuesday, January 24, 2006, 9:00 a.m. in the Pitts Center.[\(see agenda\)](#)
- Special Planning Board Workshop, Tuesday, January 24, 2006, 1 p.m. in the Pitts Center. The meeting will be related lot coverage.

If you need a police officer, anytime day or night, this weekend or any day of the year, please call Central Communications at 252-473-3444. Write that number down or pick up a free sticker at Town Hall. Keep this number by your phone and put it on your cell phone.

For more information, contact the Southern Shores Town Hall, 252-261-2394, 252-255-0876 (fax), info@southernshores-nc.gov , www.southernshores-nc.gov .

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